

February 2011 – Day 2 in Haiti – An Angel

I think we may have met an angel today. Her name is Dianna and she one of the youngest students at St. Vincent's Center for Handicapped Children in Port-au-Prince, Haiti (Episcopal Diocese of Hiati). Her smile lit up the room and today, it was The Red Thread's room.



Fr. Sadoni, Tom and Kathy unpacking the chair

Arrangements were made about 2 weeks ago for a wheelchair to go from Arkansas to Florida and then to Port-au-Prince on Agape Flights so that we would have this gift to give on our first day at St. Vincent's. When we arrived there, Father Sadoni greeted us with words that we have been waiting for: "Do you want to see your wheelchair?" Who would have thought that a simple cardboard box and it's precious contents could bring such joy?



Tom and Dr. Eric

In less than 3 minutes the box was open, the wheelchair unwrapped and ready to go. It is a child-sized bright red and black chair. As soon as he saw it, Fr. Sadoni said "I know the perfect child for this chair".



We marched up the stairs to the 2nd floor, carrying the wheelchair between 2 men, where the youngest children were in class. In one of the 3 kindergarten rooms, we met Dianna who was wheeled out on an old, hospital-style chair that was clearly too large for her. When a St. Vincent's employee gently lifted her from her old chair and placed her in the new chair, the smile that spread across her face was breathtaking.



It did not take her long to realize that she could move the chair herself with her one good hand. As Tom asked her questions in French, she smiled broadly in response and then began to laugh! What a blessing to us to be able to provide this precious child with a chair that is the perfect fit for her!

Bonswa again!



Our angel, Dianna, in her new red wheelchair